

K. Dublin. - Incorporated Society, &c.
A BRIEF
R E V I E W
O F T H E
Rise *and* Progress
O F T H E
INCORPORATED SOCIETY
I N
D U B L I N,
F O R P R O M O T I N G
English P R O T E S T A N T S C H O O L S
I N
I R E L A N D.
F R O M T H E

Opening of His Majesty's ROYAL CHARTER,
February 6th. 1733. to November 2d. 1748.

D U B L I N:
Printed by GEORGE GRIERSON, Printer to
the King's Most Excellent Majesty, at the
King's Arms and Two Bibles in Essex-Street, 1748.

A BIRTH

R E V I E W

OF THE

Rule and Progress

OF THE

INCORPORATED SOCIETY



D U M

FOR PROMOTING

English Protestant Schools

IN

IRELAND

FROM THE

Opening of His Majesty's Royal Quarters,
February 1753, to November 1758.

Printed by G. G. & J. W. in the Strand, London, 1759.
the King's Most Excellent Majesty, as the
Right Hon. and Learned Lord, 1758.

A BRIEF
R E V I E W
OF THE
RISE and PROGRESS
OF THE
INCORPORATED SOCIETY
IN
D U B L I N, &c.

THE slow Advances which the *Protestant Religion*, and a Spirit of Industry had made among the common People of *Ireland*, for an Age past, being observed by some worthy Persons of this Kingdom, they formed themselves into a voluntary Society for setting up *Parochial Schools*, as the best Remedy they could provide in that Case.

Hereupon many such Schools were set up in *Dublin*, and some other Chief Cities and Towns, under the Encouragement and Direction of several of the Bishops, Nobility, Gentry and Clergy, as a Means to forward the good Work; but after the Experience

of many Years, they perceived that the Success did not answer their Expectations ; for the Children being taught as *Day-Scholars* only, and afterwards put out Apprentices and Servants, in Places not remote enough from their own homes, their *Papish* Parents and their Priests had too frequent Access to them, and often found Means to draw them back to *Popery*, just at that Point of Life, when Children begin to be susceptible of Religious Impressions.

But this Scheme, even tho' it had not failed in any Part, was very insufficient to answer the End of a general Reformation ; for as the major Part of those Scholars were the Children of *Protestants*, the Number of young Converts made in those Schools were very small, and could not have turned the Balance against *Popery* in the Space of some Centuries.

It was therefore judged necessary to find out some other Expedient, that might operate more extensively and effectually, to the general Conversion and Reformation of the poor Natives. And the Expedient at last happily chosen, was to apply to His Majesty by Petition, that He would by His Charter, Incorporate a *Society* with Powers for Erecting Schools in several Parts of the Kingdom, wherein the Children of poor *Papists*, and other poor Natives, should be instructed in the *English* Tongue (which many of them cannot speak) and in the Principles of true Religion and Loyalty.

An humble Petition was accordingly presented to His Majesty, dated the 17th. Day of *April*, 1730. being signed by their Excellencies the then Lords Justices, and a great Number of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, of the Commons, the Clergy, and principal

principal Gentlemen of the Kingdom; whereupon His Majesty, through the favourable Interposition of his Grace the Duke of *Dorset* then Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, was graciously pleased to Grant His Royal Charter for the Purposes before mentioned, bearing Date the 24th. Day of *October*, 1733.

On the 6th. Day of *February* following, the said Charter was opened and read in the Council Chamber in *Dublin*, in Preience of his Grace the Lord Lieutenant aforesaid, and many of the Nobility and Gentry. The Officers directed by the Charter were immediately chosen, and a Subscription-book opened for carrying on the good Work.

Many Persons of Rank and Distinction then present, subscribed largely, among whom the late Earl of *Kildare* deserves to be mentioned with particular Honour and Gratitude, who gave Five hundred Pounds at the first opening of the Charter, and has since bequeathed fifteen hundred Pounds to the Society for encouraging the School at *Castledermot*, and for erecting two other Schools, viz. one at *Strangford*, and the other at *Manooth*.

But as the Effects of this Charter could not be obtained in their full Latitude, without keeping the Children apart from their Parents, and maintaining them in Meat, Drink and Cloathing, and Erecting Houses for their Aecomodation, and furnishing the same, and paying Salaries to School-Masters, and providing Tools and Utensils for their Country Labours, it was soon evident, that the necessary Expence of a few Schools would require a greater Fund than this poor Country could supply.

The Society therefore found themselves under a Necessity of having Recourse to the Charity and Piety of *England* (which has ever been distinguished for Acts of Munificence;) and herein their Hopes have not been disappointed, as will appear from the List of *English* Benefactors which has been yearly published, and will continue so to be.

In Pursuance of this View, the Society sent over their Secretary, *John Hansard*, Esq; furnished with proper Credentials for soliciting and receiving Benefactions, in which he proved very successful.

It was likewise thought adviseable to set on Foot a Corresponding Society in *London*, who residing in that Metropolis, might be Instrumental in procuring and remitting Subscriptions and Donations, and keeping up a regular Correspondence with the Incorporated Society in *Dublin*, in order to inform them of all Occurrences, and to communicate their Sentiments and Advice, as Occasion should require.

By which Means several Persons were encouraged to become Subscribers, of which Number were most of the Bishops of *England*; who animated, with a Zeal for the Honour of God, and a Spirit of Charity towards the Poor deluded Natives of *Ireland*, presently offered their Assistance; and having first contributed their own Benefactions, formed themselves into a Society for that End, and have brought in a plentiful Harvest of Benefactions to recruit the Fund, for which the Society do hereby publicly return Thanks to them, and to the pious and generous Benefactors whom God hath raised up by their Means; some of those we are bound in an especial Manner to mention, and acknowledge in this Place. These are
One

One thousand Pounds, being His Majesty's Donation, besides His Royal Grant of a thousand Pounds *per Annum*; Mr. *Whitcheot*, fifteen hundred Pounds; Mrs. *Holden*, two thousand Pounds; His Grace the Duke of *Devonshire*, three hundred seventy six Pounds and upwards; Mrs. *Dionysia Long*, fifty Pounds yearly for ten Years past; the Right Honourable Earl of *Chesterfield* two hundred and fifty Pounds, Mrs *Esther Honblon*, a Legacy of five hundred Pounds; *Ebenezer Dubois*, Esq; a Legacy of five hundred Pounds; a Person unknown by *Joseph Fawthrop*, Esq; five hundred Pounds; sundry Remittances from the *West Indies* by the Honourable Admiral *Warren*, Honourable Colonel *John Murray* and others, amounting to nine hundred twenty seven Pounds and upwards.

And we must with particular Gratitude observe, that the Parliament of *Ireland* have out of their Zeal for the *Protestant* Religion, Patronized and Encouraged the Society by creating a New Fund in the Hawkers and Pedlers Act, and appropriating the whole produce of those Duties to the Use of the Charter.

By these seasonable Aids, the Society have been enabled to extend their Schools into several Parts of the Kingdom, through the Encouragement of divers Gentlemen, and Bodies Corporate, who have given in Perpetuity one Acre of Land, some of them a greater Quantity, for the Site of a School on their Estates, besides Beneficial Leases of small Farms contiguous to every School, to be cultivated and improved by the Labour of the Boys; particularly the five Corporations of *Dublin*, *Waterford*, *Kilkenny*, *Cashell* and *Trim*, who have generously made considerable Grants out of their Estates, for encouraging

Schools in or near their respective Cities, as is more fully set forth in the yearly Abstract.

In Consequence whereof the Society have under their present Care and Direction, thirty Schools already opened; eleven now Building, and three resolved to be immediately built, making in all forty four Schools, besides a Charter-Nursery in a House hired for that use in *Dublin*, where Children sent up from the Country in Raggs are cloathed, fed and taught, and attended by a Master, Mistress and Nurse. This is a Sort of Store-house from whence the Children are transplanted to the Country Schools as Occasions require, and has Accommodations for about one hundred Children in Number, all which are supported out of their slender fund. The Society call it *slender*, because it is comparatively so, regard being had to their present Out-goings, and to the multitude of poor *Popish* Children yet unprovided for, who would fill ten times that Number of Schools, for a Succession of many Years, if means could be found to maintain them; and it is to be noted here, that in the last Year the Society expended near four thousand Pounds in the single Article of Building; and that the annual Expence of maintaining 885 Children, which is their present Complement, including the Salaries to Masters and Mistresses, with other necessary Incidents, will at a Medium amount to about 4,435^l. Yearly. And to the Intent that their Benefactors, and the World may know the true State of the Society's Circumstances, and the great Need they stand in of further Supplies to enable them to carry on this good Work, they have annexed hereunto the Abstract of the last Years Accounts which were Audited on the second Day of *November* 1748, by which it appears that the Ballance
in

in ready Cash, amounted to no more than 722*l.*
11*s.* 10½*d.*

But as the Divine Providence hath raised up many Benefactors for carrying on this good Work thus far, the Society would hope that it will not rest here, but that God will put it into the Hearts of many other Charitable Persons, to Encourage these Schools, since they can no where find fitter Objects. For Charity can never be carryed higher than to rescue the Souls of thousands of poor Children from the Dangers of *Popish* Superstition and Idolatry, and their Bodies from the Miseries of Idleness and Beggary. This is not retailing Charity to Particulars, but diffusing it over a whole Nation; it is a Charity that will make those who are at present a Nuisance and a Burthen to their Country, to become a Treasure and a Blessing to it; that will make honest and industrious Men of those who would have been bred up in Thievery and Rags; it is a Charity that will multiply obedient and peaceable Subjects to the King, and render the *Protestants* of *Ireland* safe in their Lives and Possessions. And it will for ever take away the chief Cause of those Disquietudes and Apprehensions, which, upon some former Conjunctions, have alarmed the Government and People of *England*, by reason of a near Neighbourhood of a formidable Body of *Papists*, devoted to the Sec of *Rome*, and ready to rebel at the Instigation of their Priests, or the secret Machinations of a Foreign Enemy.

These will be some of the happy Effects of the Charter-Schools, if they can be sufficiently multiplied and extended. And yet they will be produced by Means that cannot be liable to censure or objection;
not

not by Force or Terror, not by Penal Laws and Prosecutions, which can only make Hypocrites; but by the innocent and gentle Means of enlightning and instructing the ignorant Minds of Children in the pure Truths of the Gospel, and leading them early to that Fountain-head, which the Church of *Rome* has cruelly sealed up. These are the only Methods practised by the Society, as being agreeable to the Nature of Man, and to the Genius of the Christian Religion.

And for obviating the great Danger of the Childrens relapsing, the Society are very careful to transplant them originally to Schools remote from their *Popish* Parents and Relations, who would be apt to pervert them. This Expedient, so essential to the obtaining the Ends of the Charter, tho' it may have escaped Publick Cognizance, has proved an Article of no small Expence to the Society, and will continue so to be.

It after all, any Man should really doubt whether this Scheme for converting the poor Natives of *Ireland*, be well calculated for that Purpose, he may easily be satisfied from the Alarm it has given to the *Popish* Priests, who have lately denied the Communion, and refused Absolution to those Parents who have suffered their Children to be received into the Charter-Schools, though it be to save them from perishing with Hunger and Nakedness. This is a plain Confession of their inward Fears and Apprehensions, that the Charter is laying the Ax to the Root of *Popery*, and will in its Progress accomplish that Work by sweet and insensible Means, which has been too hard for coercive and penal Laws, in a Course of more than fifty Years.

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The Society cannot part with this Subject without offering one Hint to the Gentlemen of this Kingdom, which they do with the greatest Deference and Tenderness.

It is evident, that the greatest Part of the Contributions to this good Work, have been remitted from *England*, to the Amount of 28,017. 5s. given by Persons, many of whom have no Interests in *Ireland*, nor Relation to it, but send over their Bounty upon the pure Principle of Charity, and for God's Sake, for which they can hope for no Reward but in the World to come; but the Case is very different with regard to the Gentlemen of *Ireland*; for as their Benefactions will be laid out in their own Country, and frequently upon their own Estates; the Money will circulate among their own Tenants, and in the end re-imburse the Donors: Every *Popish* Child turned out a *Protestant* from these Schools, will bring an Accession of Strength to the *Protestant* Interest, and of Wealth to the Kingdom, by the Labour of his Hands. So that if the Charter-Schools could be sufficiently extended and diffused, they would be the Means of increasing Industry and Trade, and useful Manufactures, which must of Course improve every Gentleman's Estate.

The Society will conclude with this one Observation which they apprehend to be of considerable Importance, tho' little attended to, namely, that the Progress of these Schools, must in its natural Course, gradually abolish the great Number of *Popish* Holidays, by Means of which, some hundred thousands of working Hands are kept idle, and the Labour and Profit of them lost to the Publick-Stock for a

con-

considerable Part of the Year, the very Harvest not excepted.

This Damage, as little as it is observed, yet upon a fair Calculation, will appear to be an astonishing Draw-back from the Wealth and Strength of the Nation; but it eats like a Worm unseen at the Root of our Prosperity, which grows chiefly from Labour, and must languish with the Decrease of it.

It is manifest therefore that the Increase of *Protestant* Hands, in Consequence of these Schools, will remove this great Evil, which, humanly speaking, cannot be done by any other Means.

N. B. At a General Meeting of, *The Incorporated Society, &c.* held on *Monday* the 28th of *March* 1748. Resolved, That a Portion of five Pounds shall be given to every Person educated in the Charter-Schools, upon his or her marrying a Protestant, with the Approbation of the Committee of Fifteen, every such Person, producing a proper Certificate that he or she, have duly served out their Apprenticeship.

(13)

A LIST of the Charter Working Schools in Ireland.

Date of Open- ing.	Schools Names.	Counties.	No. of Chil- dren in each.	Number Apprenticed
1734	Castledermot	Kildare	20	34
1735	Ballynabinch	Down	20	35
	Minola	Mayo	24	31
	Shannon Grove	Limerick	40	107
1736	Castle Caulfield	Tyrone	20	30
1737	Greggane	Armagh	20	30
	Ballycastle	Antrim	25	21
	Templestown	Wicklow	20	16
1738	Killogh	Down	20	25
	Kilmallock	Limerick	20	27
1739	Dundalk	Louth	20	24 †
	Stradbally	Queen's C.	40	24
	Kilfinane	Limerick	20	12
	Ballinrobe	Mayo	32	12
1740	Newtown Eyre	Galway	40	24
	Newtown Corry	Monaghan	27	— *
	Ray	Donegal	27	7
1741	New Ross	Wexford	30	22
1743	Ballykett	Clare	40	9
1744	Santry	Dublin	40	12
	Waterford	Waterford	30	4
1745	Kilkenny	Kilkenny	40	3 *
1747	Ardraccan	Meath	40	
1748	Charleville	Cork	20	
	Strangford	Down	40	
	Castle Carberry	Kildare	40	
	Clonmell	Tipperary	40	
	Trim	Meath	40	
	Mountshannon	Limerick	10	*
	Arklow	Wicklow	40	

385 509 Thus mark'd * all Boys.
and thus † all Girls.

An

The Form of a BEQUEST or LEGACY.

I Tem, I Give, Devise and Bequeath, the Sum of
to the
Incorporated Society in Dublin, for Promoting
English Protestant Schools in Ireland, pursuant to
His Majesty's Royal Charter.

NAMES of Persons to receive BENE- FACTIONS in IRELAND.

Dublin, **H**IS Grace the Lord Archbishop of
Dublin, Treasurer to the Society;
John Hansard, Esq; Secretary, in Grafton-
Street; Messrs Swift and Company;
Messrs Latouche and Kane, and Mr Wil-
liam Lenox;

Cork, Messrs Harper and Company,
Waterford, William Gore, Esq; Mr John Hutchinson;
and Alderman Samuel Barker,

Clonmell, Mr John Bagwell,

Limerick, Richard Mansell, Esq; and Mr. Arthur
Vincent,

Kilkenny, Reverend Dean Mossom.

Galway, John Disney, Esq;

Sligo, Mitchelbourne Knox, Esq;

Derry, Mr Alderman Stanley,

Belfast,

*Belfast, George M^c Cartney, Esq; and Mr Daniel
Muffenden,*

Wexford, Reverend Mr William Stephens,

Armagh, Reverend Henry Jenny, D. D.

Tralee, Reverend Mr Collis,

In L O N D O N.

*Andrew Drummond, Esq; Treasurer to the Corre-
sponding Society, Charing-Cross.*

Messrs Hoare and Arnold, in Fleet-Street.

Albert Nesbitt, Esq; and Company, in Coleman-Street.

*William Wogan, Esq; in Spring-Gardens, Charing-
Cross.*

Mr Isaac Waldo, in Watling-Street.

*Mr. Laurence Cole, Secretary to the Corresponding
Society, at Messrs. Fletcher and Cole's Insurance
Office, in Bartholomew-Lane.*

*The Reverend Mr. Griffith Hughes, Rector of St.
Lucy's in Barbadoes, is appointed to receive
Benefactions and Subscriptions for Barbadoes, and
the rest of the Western Islands. And*

*By the Rev. Jacob Henderson, Rector of Queen Anne's
Parish in Prince George's County, in the Province
of Maryland, for the Continent of America.*

F I N I S.

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